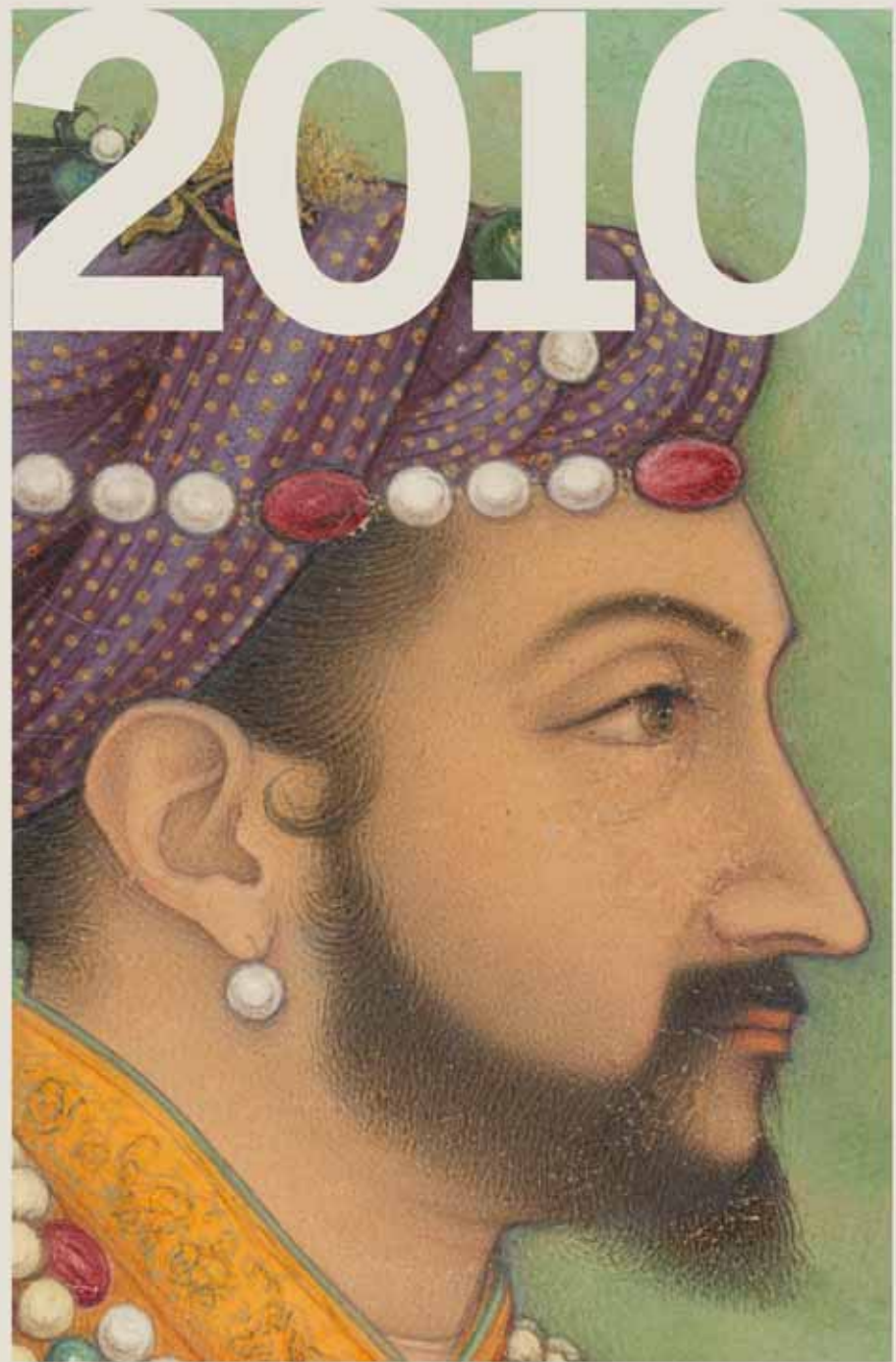


REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
Chester Beatty Library



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## TRUSTEES OF THE LIBRARY

Dr. T. P. Hardiman (Chairman)

Professor Roger Stalley (Vice-Chairman)

Professor Kathleen James Chakraborty

Sir Marc Cochrane

Mr Dermot Desmond

Mrs Joan Duff

Professor Sean Freyne

Ms Caroline Gray

Ms Elizabeth Maguire

Mrs Madeleine O'Sullivan

Ms Fiona A. Ross (ex officio)





## OVERVIEW

Despite the challenging environment in which it operated during 2010, the Library completed an ambitious public programme. Three major exhibitions were organised during the year necessitating the dismantling of the *Arts of the Book* gallery in order to host *Telling Images of China*, a key international project which was the fruit of much planning and co-operation with the Shanghai Museum. The exhibition of 38 paintings, seen for the first time outside of China, concentrated on great stories from Chinese legend, folklore and history.

The Library also mounted a “welcome home” exhibition of its highly successful *Muraqqa’ – Imperial Mughal Albums exhibition*, which had been on tour in the United States to great acclaim. The Library holds one of the finest collections of Indian Mughal paintings and this was a rare opportunity to see the very best of this collection.

Opening in November, the Library hosted *Heroes and Kings of the Shahnama* to celebrate the 1000th anniversary of Firdawsi’s completion of the text of this great Iranian national epic.

These exhibitions and others, including the continued run of *Mani: The Lost Religion of Light, Divine Inspiration* (Ballymena) and a *Sikh Face in Ireland* completed a very busy exhibition programme, which saw our visitor numbers for the year at 206,653.



The Library also completed important IT infrastructural improvements especially the adoption of a new collections management system (Adlib), which in future years will enable public access to the Library's holdings.

Besides these exhibitions and behind-the-scenes improvements, the Library celebrated its founder in two ways: the annual Chester Beatty Lecture entitled: 'Farewells, Enchantments and Seductions: Power and Authority in Chinese Figure Paintings' was delivered by Professor Craig Clunas (Oxford); and three important illuminated folios from a former Chester Beatty manuscript (sold 1969) were acquired by public auction in London and returned to the Collection.



# 2010

## REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES Chester Beatty Library

## STAFF AND DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES

### Director

Dr Michael Ryan, Director, represented the Library on numerous national and international bodies including the Council of National Cultural Institutions and was honoured with an invitation to become a member of Academia Europea. He continued as Chair of the Discovery Programme and of ICOM-Ireland. He served on the Executive Council of ASEMUS and was a Board member of its subsidiary, the Virtual Collection of Masterpieces. Appointed a judge of the European Museum of the Year Award, he evaluated seven entrants and attended the jury meeting in Istanbul in November.

Dr Ryan also attended and delivered a paper at a conference organised by the Index of Christian Art, Princeton (NJ); he was present at the tenth anniversary General Assembly of ASEMUS in Paris of which he was a board member and also at the Triennial Assembly of ICOM, Shanghai where he served on the resolutions committee.

# 2010

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
Chester Beatty Library

Domestically, he attended numerous meetings with officials of the Department of Arts, Sport and Tourism on public service issues: he also provided a number of reports to the Department on the Library in the context of the continuing financial stringency. He provided advice and support for the initial stages of the Trustees' search for a new Director.

Dr Ryan retired at the end of 2010, after 18 years as Director to devote his time to research and writing. A tribute to Dr Ryan by the Chairman of the Board of Trustees may be found at the end of this report.

# 2010

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
Chester Beatty Library



2010

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
Chester Beatty Library

## Development

Paula Shalloo, Head of Development, worked on a number of successful funding and sponsorship applications in 2010. The Sumitomo Foundation, Tokyo, awarded a generous grant for the conservation of *The Tale of the Bamboo-Cutter*, an important seventeenth-century scroll from the Library's collection. Bank of America Merrill Lynch confirmed major sponsorship of an exhibition of the art books of Henri Matisse from their corporate collection (to open in the Library in May 2011).

The Department of Arts, Sport and Tourism announced a new Cultural Technology Grant scheme in 2010, and the Library successfully applied for funding under this scheme to develop an online Intercultural Learning Zone, iTour and mobile website. The Heritage Council and the Library's Contributing Members continued to provide valuable support for the Library's conservation programme by co-funding an internship in conservation.

## Membership

Mary Dowling, Membership Co-ordinator, organised a varied programme of events for Members in 2010. A particular highlight of the year was the Library's first Members' Week in November, which was very well received and helped to introduce new Members to the Library.

Overseas trips and guided tours continued to be a popular feature of the Members' calendar in 2010. Highlights included a visit to Paris in March and Oxford and Cambridge in October.

# 2010

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
Chester Beatty Library

## HEAD OF COLLECTIONS

### Western Curator

The primary attention for Mr Charles Horton, Head of Collections was the implementation of the Adlib database along with his other colleagues. He was also the key liaison officer for the collections audit.

He successfully secured three medieval folios from a French Book of Hours (Wms 103 dated 1408) which had once been in the Library but sold under the terms of Chester Beatty's Will in 1969.

He compiled and edited *Treasures to Share. The Chester Beatty Library Celebrating 10 Years at Dublin Castle*, which was kindly sponsored by the Department of Arts, Sport and Tourism. He represented the Library on various media including documentaries on Channel Four (UK), Dublin Culture Trail and initiated a new film for the Library *The Cry of the Ox: A lament across the centuries*, produced in association with John Forde Productions.

The re-housing of the Library's archives, the provenance file index and the international Manichaean Kephalaia project (including complete multi-image spectrum photography) were managed along with third-level tutorials and public lectures. The papyrus conservation project was initiated with the assistance of conservators from the University of Michigan and the Berlin Papyrussammlung. Tara Kelly and Dietlind Kranefeld assisted the work of the Library as part-time curatorial assistants.



## East Asian Collections

The post of Curator of the East Asian Collections remains vacant since mid-2009 as a result of the moratorium on public sector recruitment. Dr Shane McCausland, former Curator of the East Asian Collections, was retained on a consultancy basis to oversee the installation of the *Telling Images of China* exhibition and to act as convenor of the associated conference.

As the position of Curator of this Collection is currently vacant, Laura Muldowney, part-time Curatorial Assistant, shouldered many of the responsibilities associated with the *Telling Images of China* exhibition and conference, and provided guided tours of the exhibition. She also concluded negotiations for the upcoming *China through the Lens* exhibition, scheduled to open in November 2011.

During 2010, a full inventory of the East Asian collection was undertaken as was the subsequent audit of that collection in the second half of the year, with a view to inputting this information on the new Adlib database.

Throughout the year a number of visiting scholars were assisted, and documentation was enhanced on the Library's collection of Japanese *ukiyo-e* prints.

# 2010



REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
Chester Beatty Library

## Islamic Collections

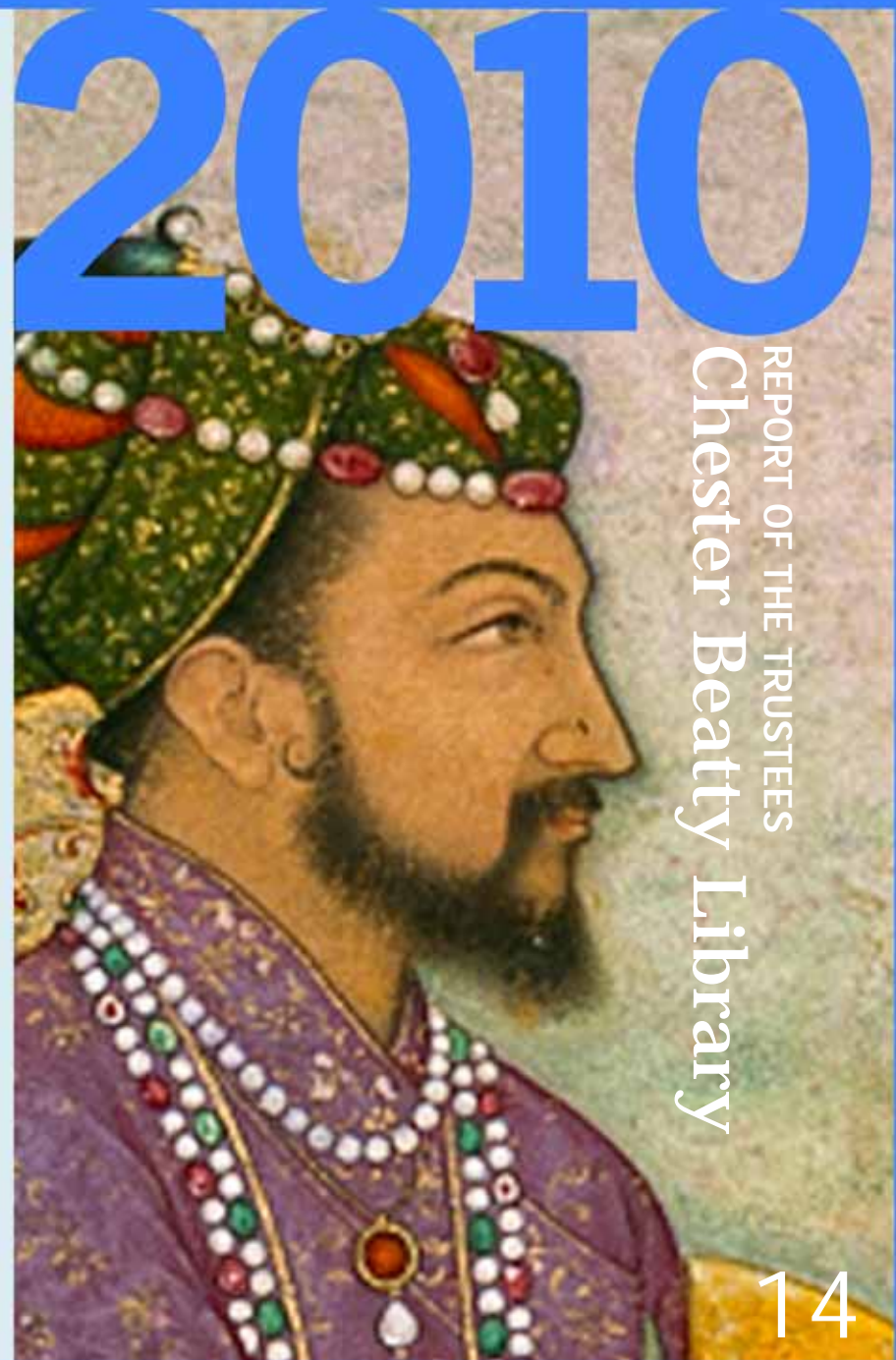
2010 was an extremely busy year for the Islamic Collections with two major exhibitions mounted in the first floor Gallery. The exhibitions, *Muraqqa'*, *Imperial Mughal Albums* and *Heroes and Kings of the Shahnama*, were both accompanied by a programme of lectures and films and associated merchandise was produced.

Material from the Islamic Collections was included in four international exhibitions in 2010: Arthur M. Sackler Gallery of Art (Washington, DC), *Falnama: The Book of Omens*; the National Portrait Gallery (London), *The Indian Portrait*; The Sakip Sabanci Museum (Istanbul), *Byzantium to Istanbul—8000 Years of a Capital* and Los Angeles County Museum of Art, *India's Fabled City: The Art of Courtly Lucknow*.

Elizabeth Omidvaran, part-time assistant for the Arabic Manuscripts Project continued to oversee the progress on this international project. Catalogue entries have so far been completed on the astronomy, astrology, mathematics and philosophy manuscripts.

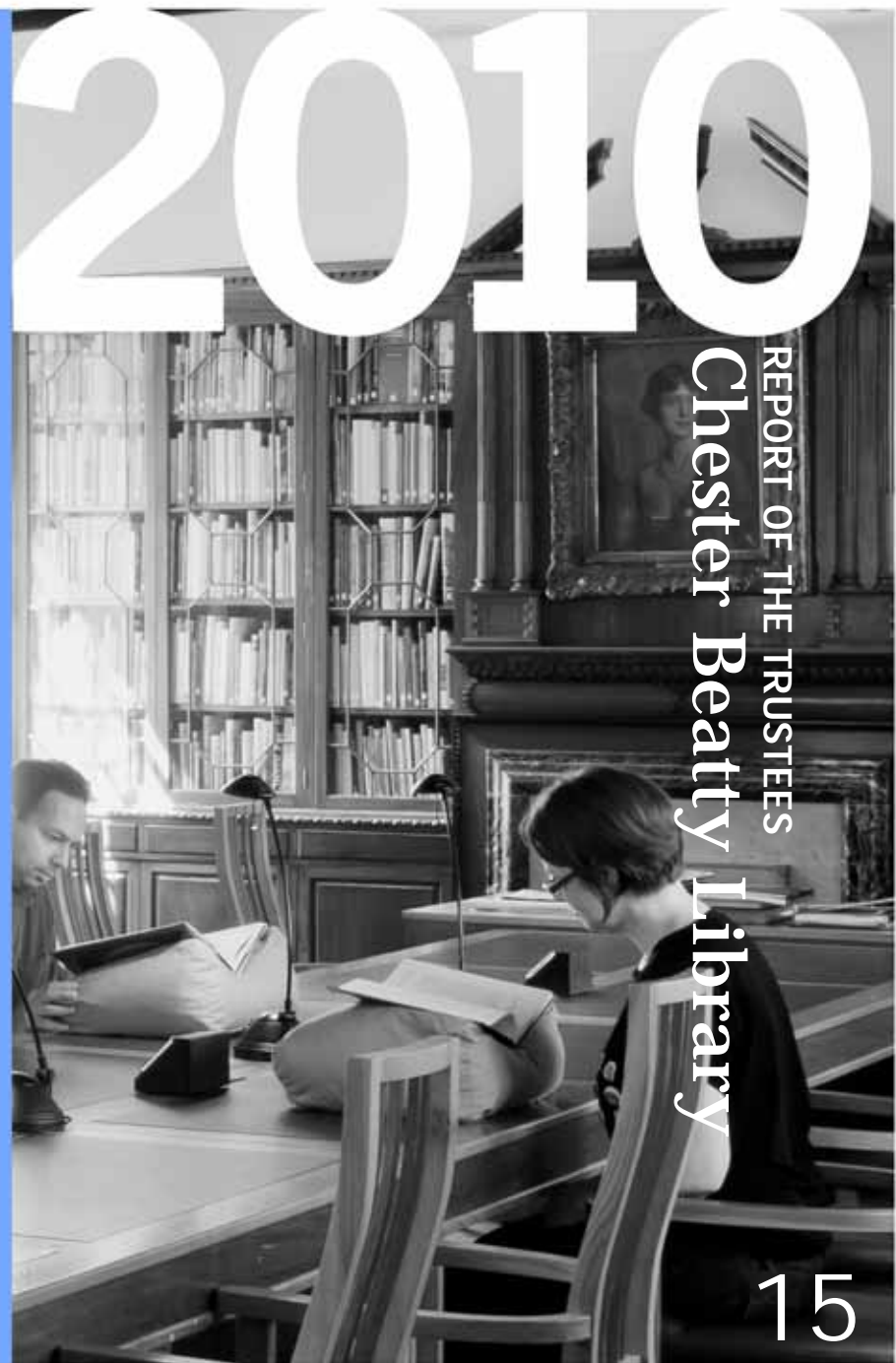
With the help of a grant for £5,000 received from The Islamic Manuscripts Association (TIMA) in 2009, an on-line database of seal impressions found in the Library's Arabic manuscripts is being created.

Dr Jill Unkel, part-time assistant to the curator, contributed greatly to the general care and management of the Islamic Collections, assisting especially with matters related to the establishment of the Library's new Adlib database.



## REFERENCE LIBRARY

The Reference Library staff processed reference collection acquisitions, and responded to information requests from both staff and external users. Staff invigilated visiting scholars, and reference readers seeking access to the collections throughout the year. Full cataloguing and phase-boxing of the early printed book collection continued, as did bar-coding of the reference collection.



# 2010

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

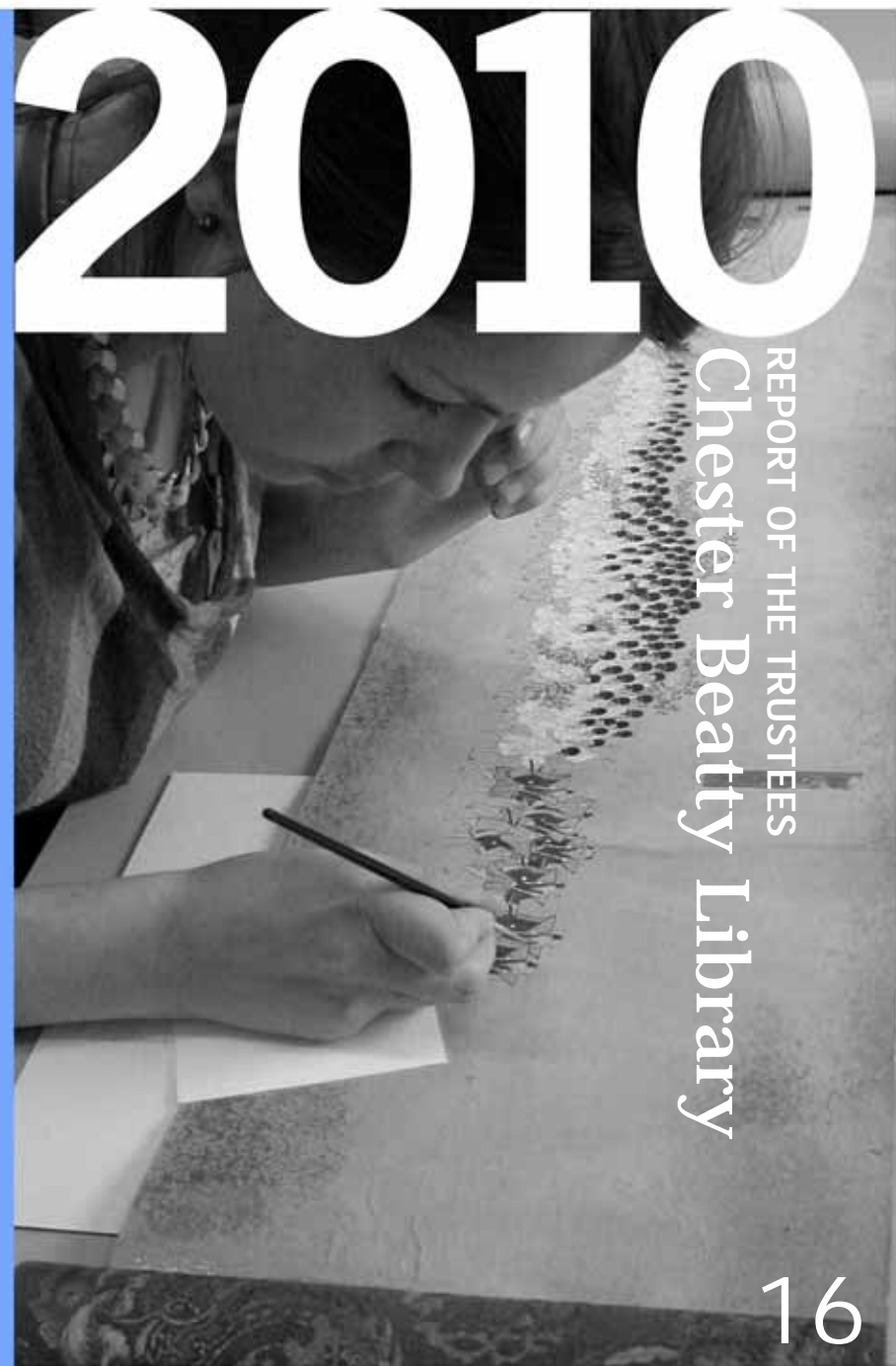
Chester Beatty Library

## CONSERVATION

The successful installation of three major exhibitions was the main focus for the Conservation Department during 2010. Kristine Rose continued in the role of acting Head of Conservation while Jessica Baldwin was on maternity leave; Rachel Sawicki continued as Heritage Council sponsored intern in book conservation; and Gaia Petrella, as the Library's paper conservator. Jessica Baldwin's maternity leave came to an end on 1 November, when she returned to the Laboratory as Head of Conservation.

A number of loans and the in-house exhibition *Telling Images of China* necessitated several courier trips for conservation staff. All objects underwent full assessment and conservation in preparation for travel and a total of 69 condition reports were prepared. Other projects included the preservation of some 200 items, including the treatment of mezzotints; preparation of *Surimono* prints for the Ritsumeikan digitisation project and work on the collection audit of the Library.

All conservation staff received assistance for continued professional development during the year and hosted the visits of professionals from other key institutions including book conservators from the Université de Liège and papyrus conservators from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor and the Egyptian Museum, Berlin. A report for the long term preservation of the Chester Beatty papyrus collection was commissioned.



# 2010

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
Chester Beatty Library

The Attendant Staff, especially James Curran, played a key role in all exhibition installations and attendants David Steele and Alan Fitzgerald were trained in box making and mount cutting. The Arabic collection condition survey progressed for the first half of the year, thanks to the voluntary support of Colleen Fitzgerald.

# 2010

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
Chester Beatty Library

## EDUCATION AND VOLUNTEER PROGRAMME

The Head of Education, Jenny Siung assisted by Justyna Chmielewska, Volunteer Co-Ordinator, ran highly successful visitor events and developed new programmes during the year. The *Meet the Community* programme linked visitors with various ethnic communities through art-workshops, demonstrations, music and dance performances, children's events, outreach and lectures. The *Community Ambassadors Programme* offered guided tours of the permanent collection in languages other than English.

Ms Siung continued to represent the Library on Museums as Places of Intercultural Dialogue (a European partnership project with several museums and cultural organisations) which saw the development of The Learning Museum project. The Library, through its Education services, also contributed to the Silk Road Learning Zone, a museum portal for children with other partners in Leiden, Seoul and Singapore.

Our visitor services were enhanced by our Volunteer programme which offered a variety of essential services to the general public, including guided tours, visitor services assistance, help in the giftshop and conservation department, and assistance with membership and public events. At the end of the year there were 33 Volunteers in total (see appendix).

# 2010

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
Chester Beatty Library

## HEAD OF OPERATIONS AND ADMINISTRATION

Derval O'Carroll, Head of Operations and Administration, was on maternity leave for the greater part of the year (returning in September). During her absence, her management and supervisory duties were covered mainly by the Director with support in the administrative and marketing areas from Anna Kadzik-Bartoszewska and Paula Shaloo. On her return, she concentrated her efforts on generating PR for the *Heroes and Kings of the Shahnama* exhibition and was involved in administrative and advisory duties in relation to the recruitment of a new Director.

# 2010

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
Chester Beatty Library

## TECHNICAL

The Library's Technical Manager, Lorna Tracey returned to full-time work in August 2010, following eight months maternity leave. During her leave she remained in contact with the Library and Calyx (an external computer support company providing partial cover), in order to progress a number of IT related projects. These included the installation of a new wireless network, the iPod Tour, the Digital Asset Management System planning and new backup software investigation/solution and purchase.

# 2010

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
Chester Beatty Library

## RIGHTS AND REPRODUCTIONS

Sinead Ward maintains the Library's Rights and Reproductions Office which administers all photographic requests for both academic and commercial publications and documentaries. The Library has a partnership with several international digitisation projects in the United States, Europe, Asia and Australia and digital rights management is increasingly important for the Library. The office also handled all image requests for the Library's own publications and graphic requirements which included *Treasures to Share: The Chester Beatty Library Celebrating 10 Years at Dublin Castle* and all display panels within the galleries. Final modifications were also made to the Library's enhanced online Image Gallery.

Frances Narkiewicz, Rights and Reproductions assistant, developed a suite of multimedia applications to accompany the *Telling Images of China* exhibition, including a handheld iPod exhibition tour, an in-gallery touch screen kiosk display and the Library's first online virtual exhibition. Other projects developed and managed were the creation of three government-funded multimedia initiatives, including a mobile website, an iPod App museum tour and an online Intercultural Learning Zone.

Rights and Reproductions staff, along with other colleagues, was heavily involved with the development and testing of the new collection management system for the Library and oversaw the successful migration of data to the new Adlib database.

# 2010

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
Chester Beatty Library

## HEAD ATTENDANT

James Curran, Head Attendant, in conjunction with the OPW, oversaw improvements to the maintenance of the plant and machinery of the Library, particularly in relation to emergency lighting and emergency training. Assistance was also provided in the galleries for the installing and dismantling of exhibitions.

## GIFTSHOP

The Giftshop reported an increase in gross sales over the previous year and the stocktake was conducted at mid-year and end of year intervals. The Giftshop supported the exhibition programme with sales of catalogues, associated books and other merchandise.

## EVENTS

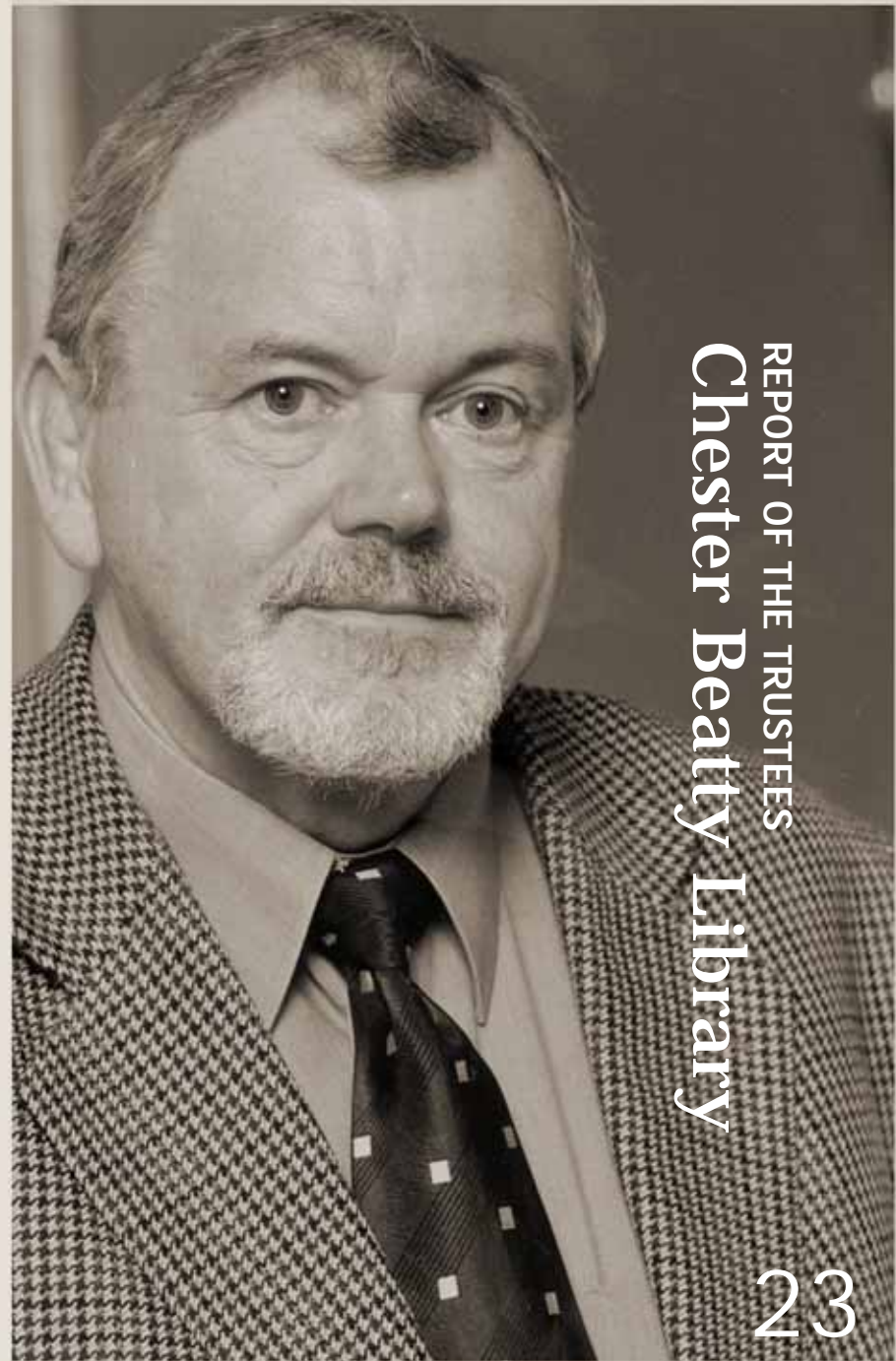
The Library hosted 17 events of a semi – commercial nature and two events of a commercial nature during 2010.

## RETIREMENTS

Dr Michael Ryan, retired from the Directorship of the Library at the end of 2010. A gathering which included the Board of Trustees, staff, colleagues and friends attended a reception in honour of Dr Ryan on 17 December, to celebrate his time at the Library, and to wish him well in his retirement. Dr T.P. Hardiman, Chairman of the Trustees spoke at the reception, in the presence of the Minister of Arts, Sport and Tourism, Ms Mary Hanafin, TD and distinguished guests, and he paid tribute to the remarkable career and achievements of Dr Ryan. An excerpt from Dr Hardiman's address is quoted below:

*It is a pleasure for all here to join the celebration of the life and times of Michael Ryan and, in particular, his enormous contribution to the Chester Beatty Library.*

*Michael has had a distinguished career over four decades and the Chester Beatty was fortunate to have him as Director for a third of that time. At a time of serious difficulty for the Chester Beatty Library in the early nineties, Michael was asked by the Taoiseach's office to take time out from his responsibilities as Keeper of Irish Antiquities in the National Museum and to sort out the problems at the Library. Michael was a distinguished archaeologist with an established reputation in research and publication in his field but he took on the uncongenial task. He not only sorted out the problems but took the view that the priceless collections, of great significance in the broader world of Eastern, Islamic and*



*Christian cultures, warranted high quality curatorial, conservation and display facilities that were not available at Shrewsbury Road.*

*He took up the substantive position as Director and set about the transformation of the Chester Beatty Library and its relocation to Dublin Castle.*

*There is a book to be written on Michael's single minded pursuit of his vision in the second half of the nineties, the building of the new state of the art museum facilities at the Clock Tower Building here in Dublin Castle, the move of the Collections from the inadequate location at Shrewsbury Road and the setting in train of curatorial, conservation and education programmes that have underpinned the remarkable exhibitions in recent years. Si monumentum requiris, circumspice.*

*Michael's achievement was recognised when the Chester Beatty in its new home at Dublin Castle was named the Irish Museum of the Year in 2000. Major international recognition was achieved when the Chester Beatty was named European Museum of the Year in 2002.*

*Michael is known to be frugal in his resource utilisation and management and, with a modest budget, he successfully developed the professional curatorial, conservation and educational functions and, as we saw, brought an outstanding programme of exhibitions in recent years that has redounded to the reputation of the Chester Beatty in the east and in the west. When the Collections were located at Shrewsbury Road, the number of visitors annually was some five thousand. The annual number of visitors is now around the quarter of a million mark.*

*I mentioned that Michael is a distinguished scholar in his chosen field of archaeology and, apart from the demands on him as Director of the Chester Beatty; he has maintained a substantial output of papers and books over the years. He is an Honorary Fellow of TCD, an Adjunct Professor at UCD and he had the accolade of being elected by his academic peers as President of the Royal Irish Academy for the three year term. During his period of office he instituted a strategic planning process for the Academy which stands the institution in good stead.*

*Michael's international standing saw him named to the Executive Committee of ASEMUS, the network of European and Asian Museums. Major European museums invariably hold a wealth of Asian art but for historical reasons the converse is not so. An objective of ASEMUS is the correction of this situation with the effective use of modern media. In the four years since its inception, the Virtual Collection of Masterpieces, with over sixty museums throughout Europe and Asia, display high quality images of masterpieces from their collections. A stated goal of the VCM is to make at least 5,000 works of Asian art available by the end of this year and to provide multilingual descriptions to facilitate access. Michael has put his strategic planning skills to the benefit of ASEMUS and the Chester Beatty Library features prominently as the Irish partner on the admirable VCM website.*

TPH - 17 December 2010



Small text block below the first miniature painting, likely providing details about the artwork.



Small text block below the second miniature painting, likely providing details about the artwork.



Small text block below the third miniature painting, likely providing details about the artwork.



## Portraiture

The Mughal Empire's patronage was limited to that reserved for the painting of general portraits and the commissioning of other beautiful objects to their rulers. It was not until the reign of Aurangzeb that the world of art that was India, in its full splendor, was again brought to the attention of the people who created her art.

However, portraits are included in the album. In the Mughal and Sikh styles, portraits of the Emperor and his family members are the most common. The portraits of the Emperor and his family members are the most common in the art of the Mughal Empire. They are the most common in the art of the Mughal Empire.





## APPENDIX

### STAFF OF THE LIBRARY

**Director:**

Michael F. Ryan, MA, PhD, MRIA, FSA  
(retired 31 December 2010)

**Head of Development:**

Paula Shalloo, BA

**Personal Assistant to Director:**

June Lattimore

**Membership Co-ordinator:**

Mary Dowling, BA

**Head of Collections and Curator of the Western Collections:**

Charles Horton, MA, Dip. Archive Studies

**Curator of the Islamic Collections:**

Elaine Wright, MA, MPhil, DPhil

**Curator of the East Asians Collections:**

vacant

**Reference Librarian:**

Celine Ward, BA, MLIS

**Senior Library Assistant:**

Hyder Abbas, BA, HDipLIS

**Head of Education:**

Jenny Siung, MLitt, HDip Arts Administration, HDip Adult and Community Education

**Head of Conservation:**

Jessica Baldwin, BA Hon. Conservation

**Senior Conservator:**

Kristine Rose, ACR, BA Hon. Conservation

**Conservators:**

Gaia Petrella, MA

Rachel Sawicki, MA (Heritage Council Sponsored Book Conservation Intern)

**Curatorial Assistants:**

Laura Muldowney, MA

Jill Unkel, MSc, MPhil, PhD

Elizabeth Omidvaran, MLitt

Dietlind Kranefeld, MA

Tara Kelly, MA

**Head of Operations and Administration:**

Derval O'Carroll, MA

**Technical Manager:**

Lorna Tracey, BSc

**Finance Manager:**

Vera Greif

**Administrative Assistant:**

Anna Kadzik-Bartoszewska, BA, BArchSC, MLitt

**Rights and Reproductions Officer:**

Sinéad Ward, MA, HDip Arts Administration

**Shop Manager:**

Rie Mishima, BA

**Shop Assistants:**

John Synott, BComm

Marta Przyluck, MA

**Events Co-ordinator:**

Lisa Fitzsimons, MA

**Volunteer Co-ordinator:**

Justyna Chmielewska, MLitt

**Rights and Reproductions Assistant:**

Frances Narkiewicz, BA

**Head Attendant:**

James Curran

**Senior Attendants:**

Kevin Hackett

John Madden

**Attendants:**

Joseph Doyle

Val Kavanagh

Tony Gallagher

Brendan Lynch

David Steele

Martin O'Leary

Syed Usman Alishah

Alan Fitzgerald

Colm Kiernan

## VOLUNTEERS

### **Tour Guides:**

Joan Barnewell  
Dorothy Dennis  
Susan Dillon  
Jack Fitzgerald  
Delphine Kelly  
Patricia McCabe  
Janet Martin  
Nateghe Moane  
Michael O'Connell  
Mary O'Riordan  
Heidi O'Rourke  
Cathriona Russell  
Orla Ryan  
Margaret Sheehy

### **Visitor Services Representatives:**

Hiromi Anzai  
Margaret Brady  
Mairin Cullen  
Maura Fennell  
Colleen Fitzgerald  
Noel Gorman  
Kurt Kullmann  
Mary Neville  
Brian O'Neill  
Rita Sutton

**Retail Assistants:**

Nicola Dunne

Edicleia Reis de Oliveira

**Membership Assistants:**

Andrea Dodd

Mary McGrath

Aisling Randles

**Graphic Design:**

Emma Byrne

2010 REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

Chester Beatty Library

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# Balance Sheet

31 December 2010

	Notes	2010 €	2009 €
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible fixed assets	7	1,870,345	2,063,803
Investments	8	1,216,055	1,202,287
		<u>3,086,400</u>	<u>3,266,090</u>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Shop stocks		186,243	194,356
Debtors and prepayments		58,157	42,440
Bank deposit accounts - restricted	9	338,965	417,642
Bank deposit accounts - unrestricted		305,458	256,388
Bank current accounts		457,063	555,949
		<u>1,345,886</u>	<u>1,466,775</u>
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Creditors and accruals		<u>(189,582)</u>	<u>(201,293)</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>1,156,304</u>	<u>1,265,482</u>
		<u>4,242,704</u>	<u>4,531,572</u>
<b>Capital and income funds</b>			
Capital funds		302,030	302,030
Restricted funds	9	2,043,950	2,261,582
Unrestricted funds		780,669	865,673
		<u>3,126,649</u>	<u>3,429,285</u>
<b>Development Fund</b>	12	<u>1,116,055</u>	<u>1,102,287</u>
		<u>4,242,704</u>	<u>4,531,572</u>

Trustees: Dr TP Hardiman, Prof R Stalley.  
 Director/Librarian: Ms. F. Croke.